

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Masaya OKAMOTO, et al.	)	
	)	
Application No.: Unassigned	)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
	)	
Filed: July 30, 2003	)	Examiner: Unassigned
	)	
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND	)	
HOLDING METHOD OF IMAGE CARRIER	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
Arlington, VA 22202

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of each listed document is attached

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a language other than English.

a. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001-18390. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the present application and shown in the English-language abstract.

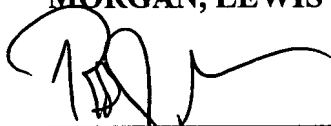
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "prior art" under

United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**



Robert J. Goodell-Reg. No. 41,040

Date: July 30, 2003

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

PTO Form 1449

Attorney Docket No.

040894-5946

Serial No.

Unassigned

Applicants

Masaya OKAMOTO, et al.

Filing Date

July 30, 2003

Group

Unassigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	<u>Translation</u>	
						YES	NO
	2001-1183902	July 6, 2001	Japan			Abstract	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.